IN THE CLAIMS

1.-16.   (cancelled)

17. (new) A method of processing information, comprising:

(a) storing in a memory of an information processing system:

(i) a plurality of individually identified information-bearing entities ("IBEs"), and

(ii) a dictionary including a plurality of irreducible simple elements, each simple element having a meaning;

(b) storing a plurality of dynamic structures in the memory, each dynamic structure being stored in association with at least one stored IBE, the dynamic structure including (i) at least one knowledge object, the knowledge object including a plurality of simple elements selected from the stored dictionary, (ii) first information identifying the selected simple elements in the at least one knowledge object and (ii) second information identifying links between the selected simple elements; and

(c) processing ones of the stored IBEs with a processor of an information processing system using the first and second information contained in the stored dynamic structures associated with the ones of the IBEs.

18. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein a number of knowledge objects and a number of simple elements included in each of the plurality of dynamic structures are subject to vary.

19. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the plurality of knowledge objects and plurality of simple elements included in the plurality of dynamic structures are subject to vary with time.

20. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the selection of simple elements identified by the first information and the links between the simple elements

identified by the second information of each of the plurality of each dynamic structures are subject to vary with time.

21. (new) The method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the selection of simple elements and the links between the simple elements are subject to vary with time in accordance with the processing the ones of the IBEs, the processing being performed under control of a user of the information processing system.

22. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein a first simple element of the plurality of simple elements is included in each of at least some dynamic structures of the plurality of dynamic structures.

23. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein a knowledge object of each stored dynamic structure includes at least one attribute of a simple element included in the knowledge object, and the processing is performed using at least some attributes of the simple elements included in the ones of the plurality of dynamic structures.

24. (new) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein attributes of the simple elements included in the plurality of dynamic structures have values, each value being selected from the group consisting of: (i) values set by a user of the information processing system, (ii) values calculated according to other information included in the dynamic structures which contain each simple element, and values calculated according to the number of occurrences of each simple element in all or a determined part of the dynamic structures which contain each simple element.

25. (new) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein each stored dynamic structure further includes at least one knowledge object attribute associated with each knowledge object, wherein the processing step is performed using at least some attributes of the knowledge objects included in the plurality of dynamic structures.

26. (new) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein a

value of the at least one knowledge object attribute is calculated from values of attributes of the simple elements contained in a particular knowledge object.

27. (new) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the step of storing the plurality of dynamic structures includes setting a value of at least one knowledge object attribute by an operator.

28. (new) The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the steps (a) and (b) are performed to create starting dynamic structures, the method further comprising performing the steps (a) and (b) under control of an authorized user of the information processing system with respect to the IBEs and the at least one knowledge object in each starting dynamic structure to create modified dynamic structures.

29. (new) The method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising storing at least one base in the memory, the base including a plurality of dimensions, each dimension including at least some of the plurality of simple elements organized into a plurality of groups, the method further comprising using the information processing system to graphically display a layout indicating the organization of the plurality of dimensions and groups included in the base.

30. (new) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein each group is represented in the memory as a simple element, that simple element representing a group being selectable in knowledge objects in the same manner as other simple elements.

31. (new) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the stored dictionary includes a plurality of different bases, each of at least some of the plurality of simple elements being organized in at least one of multiple different groups or dimensions, and the displaying step includes displaying one of a plurality of visual organizations, each visual organization corresponding to a layout of one of the plurality of different bases.

32.   (new) The method as claimed in claim 31, further comprising:

storing a user table in the memory, the user table including membership attributes of a plurality of users and identifiers associated with the plurality of users; and

in accordance with a value of the membership attribute of the user, displaying a visual organization corresponding to the layout of a base designated by a membership attribute of a user, and, when necessary, displaying only a part of a base designated by the membership attribute of the user.

33.   (new) The method according to claim 32, wherein the layout of a base is a tree-structure layout, and the layout of only a part of a base includes a limited number of tree-structure levels.

34.   (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the processing step includes comparing the dynamic structures associated with at least two of the plurality of information-bearing entities.

35.   (new) The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the processing step includes comparing the dynamic structures associated with a plurality of the information-bearing entities with one or more dynamic structures belonging to one or more standard information-bearing entities.

36.   (new) The method as claimed in claim 35, wherein the comparing step implements at least one of a mathematical or logical combination of at least one of presence or absence of simple elements in the plurality of dynamic structures, at least one of the presence or absence of simple elements together in knowledge objects of the dynamic structures, and values of attributes of simple elements and knowledge objects.